

Agriculture is Georgia's number one industry, and we are proud that a great Georgian has filled this national and important role.

As members of the House Committee on Agriculture, we look forward to working with Zippy, and wish him all the best as he begins this new journey in his life.

Congratulations to Zippy and Bonnie Duvall. I know the American Farm Bureau Federation will be served well with Zippy as president.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the female pilots who served during World War II, known as the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or the WASPs.

These brave and hardworking female pilots signed up, of their own volition, were trained in over 12,000 aircraft, and stepped up to the plate to fill the shortfall of male pilots.

Despite the fact that the WASPs were merely considered civilians, they served their country, delivering planes overseas in dangerous conditions and helping to train the male pilots for combat.

Thirty-eight of these WASPs died while serving their country, and their patriotic sense of duty is truly inspirational.

Unfortunately, these courageous women have been unjustly denied the honor of burial at the Arlington National Cemetery. Why? Because they were civilians.

As a cosponsor of H.R. 4336, I strongly urge the Secretary of the Army to change its policy and allow these female pilots to be honored at Arlington National Cemetery. It is the moral imperative of our country to honor them.

#### CONGRATULATING NASA FLIGHT DIRECTOR MARY LAWRENCE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Lawrence, a native of Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, who was named late last year as one of the five new flight directors to manage the operations of the International Space Station from NASA's Mission Control Center in Houston.

Mary grew up in Wattsburg, Erie County, earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Pennsylvania State University's Behrend campus in 2001. Following graduation, she worked for the U.S. Space Alliance, a NASA contractor, before joining NASA in 2007.

As a flight director, Mary will lead teams of flight controllers, research and engineering experts, along with support personnel, in ensuring the crew of the International Space Station have the tools that they need to conduct their important scientific research.

Mr. Speaker, Mary is hoping to be certified as a flight director in a few months, and will then be one of only 27 active flight directors for NASA.

Again, I congratulate Mary, her husband, Andrew, and their entire family on this commendable accomplishment. I wish her the best of luck as her career with NASA continues.

#### NORTH KOREA SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT ACT

(Mr. CASTRO of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of North Korea's alleged hydrogen bomb test last week, the House of Representatives yesterday passed the North Korea Sanctions Enforcement Act and sent a strong signal that the United States will not tolerate such hostile behavior.

Yesterday's legislation strengthens and expands our existing sanctions against North Korea, increases our investigations into nefarious activities that support North Korea's weapons programs and human rights abuses, and holds bad actors accountable when they engage with North Korea to launder money, traffic narcotics, or carry out cybersecurity attacks.

I am glad that the final bill includes a measure I proposed stressing the strategic importance of U.S. trilateral cooperation and military intelligence-sharing with Japan and South Korea. The United States will uphold its commitment to Japan and South Korea, protect their security in the face of the North Korean threat, and work to preserve stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

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#### THE WORLD IS NOT SAFE TODAY

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in his State of the Union message, President Obama claimed that America's standing as a world power is greater than when he first took office.

Let's see, Mr. Speaker. Iran just took 10 of our sailors hostage for 24 hours. Iran props up a dictator in Syria who has killed millions of his own citizens. Iran is the world's number one sponsor of terrorism. Iran is currently developing ICBMs and eventually will have nuclear weapons.

Russia invaded Ukraine, a country hungry for freedom. The Ukrainians looked to the United States for leader-

ship, and the United States watched and basically did nothing. The Russians are still in Ukraine.

North Korea has nuclear weapons and ICBMs that can now reach the United States. ISIS and other terrorist groups control more territory and have more money than ever before in history. Last year was one of the deadliest years of terrorist violence on record.

The fact is the world is not safer today. It is not a more stable place than it was 8 years ago. The world is full of dangerous, rogue nations seeking to do harm. Our friends don't trust us, and our enemies scoff at us.

The administration's foreign policy is based on wobbly knees, not strength.

And that is just the way it is.

#### RECOGNIZING COMBINED INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA IN GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Combined Insurance Company of America in Glenview, Illinois, for receiving an estimable award. GI Jobs magazine announced its Top 100 Military Friendly Employers for 2016, and for the second consecutive year, Combined Insurance was number one.

This is a prestigious honor, as Combined was ranked above 5,000 other organizations in the United States that were considered, and it marks the fifth straight year that they made the Top 100 organizations.

Since 2010, Combined Insurance has hired over 2,500 veterans or those with a military background. Their president, Brad Bennett, has committed to hiring an additional 2,800 more by the end of 2017.

Brad and his leadership team know that servicemembers at any rank offer employers skills such as discipline, independent work ethic, and commitment. They actively recruit from all levels of the military, offering opportunities for former officers and those from the enlisted ranks as well.

In addition to providing meaningful employment to our veterans, Combined also gives back to several veteran charities in both time and resources.

I hope more organizations will emulate Combined Insurance in their unwavering efforts to support our Nation's veterans.

#### RIGHT TO LIFE

(Mr. ROKITA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, the Declaration of Independence records for posterity the fact that we have been given by our Creator certain unalienable rights. Among these, of course, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.